

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.-6 (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A small-sized hinge device for connecting a first member and a second member rotating relatively to each other, comprising:

a case body with baffle means mounted in one of the two members;

a fixed cam provided inside said case body;

a shaft arrested by said case body, one end thereof passing through said fixed cam along its an axial direction of said fixed cam and said case body along its an axial direction of said case body;

an arresting body disposed in the other end of said shaft and attached to the other one of the members;

a rib portion formed along an axial direction of said arresting body and rotating with one of the two members;

a cam slider disposed to face said fixed cam and to slide in an axial direction of said shaft with the rotation thereof being arrested by said shaft; and

a compression spring interposed resiliently between said cam slider and said arresting body.

8. (Original) A small-sized hinge device according to claim 7, wherein:

said fixed cam is constituted independently of said case body and accommodated in said case body with the rotation thereof arrested by said case body.

9. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 8, further comprising:

a cam portion disposed in said fixed cam being composed of a concave portion, a first inclined portion forming the concave portion and having a large steep slope surface, a long gentle inclined plane portion provided adjacent to the first inclined portion, and a second inclined portion provided adjacent to the inclined plane portion forming the concave portion and having another small and steep slope surface, and

a convex portion on said cam slider contacting the cam portion by pressure drops inside the first inclined portion of said fixed cam when the first member and the second member are in a closed state, and by opening both of the first member and the second member relatively to each other, the convex portion escapes from the first inclined portion of the concave portion to move down along the gently inclined plane portion, and when they are opened at an angle close to the maximum opening angle, it drops inside the concave portion from the second inclined portion.

10. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device, according to ~~Claim~~ claim 9, wherein:

the convex portion of said cam slider drops in the first inclined portion just before the first member and the second member are closed relatively to each other.

11. (Original) A small-sized hinge device according to claim 10, wherein:

the first member and the second member are a transmitting section and a receiver section of a portable telephone respectively.

12. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device for connecting a first member and a second member rotating relatively to each other, comprising:

a case body with baffle means mounted in one of the two members;

a fixed cam provided inside said case body;

a shaft arrested by said case body, one end thereof passing through said fixed cam along its axial direction and said case body along its axial direction;

an arresting body disposed in the other end of said shaft and attached to the other one of the members;

a rib portion formed along an axial direction of said arresting body and rotating with one of the two members;

a cam slider disposed to face said fixed cam and to slide in an axial direction of said shaft with the rotation thereof being arrested by said shaft;

a compression spring interposed resiliently between said cam slider and said arresting body; and

a slider washer provided on a portion of the shaft engaging with the case body.

13. (Currently Amended) A ~~small-sized~~ small-sized hinge device according to claim 12, wherein:

said fixed cam is constituted independently of said case body and accommodated in said case body with the rotation thereof arrested by said case body.

14. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device according to ~~Claim~~ claim 13, further comprising:

a cam portion disposed in said fixed cam being composed of a concave portion, a first inclined portion forming the concave portion and having a large and steep slope surface, a long and gentle inclined plane portion provided adjacent to the first inclined portion, and a second inclined portion provided adjacent to the inclined plane portion forming the concave portion and having another small and steep slope surface, and

a convex portion on said cam slider contacting the cam portion by pressure drops inside the first inclined portion of said fixed cam when the first member and the second member are in a closed state, and by opening both of the first member and the second member are in a closed state, and by opening both of the first member and the second member relatively to each other, the convex portion escapes from the first inclined portion of the concave portion to move down along the gently inclined plane portion, and when they are opened at an angle close to the maximum opening angle, it drops inside the concave portion from the second inclined portion.

15. (Currently Amended) A small-sized hinge device, according to ~~Claim~~ claim 14, wherein:

the convex portion of said cam slider drops in the first inclined portion just before the first member and the second member are closed relatively to each other.

16. (Original) A small-sized hinge device according to claim 15, wherein:

the first member and the second member are a transmitting section and a receiver section of a portable telephone respectively.